

AMENDED

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CLAIMS

1. A product containerisation system created by attaching at least one product (X) to one side of a planar sheet (103) by overlaying a polymeric film (101) over the product (X) and one side of the planar sheet (103) by a skin packing process, and then folding the planar sheet (103) into an erected container or package, characterised in that the polymeric film (101) is water soluble or water dispersible and provides the primary packaging for the product (X) wherein the polymeric film (101) is selected and arranged such that twisting the product (X) and overlying film (101) about an axis (105) transverse to the planar sheet (103) shears the polymeric film (101) generally around the perimeter (107) of the product (X) adjacent the planar sheet (103).
2. A product containerisation system according to Claim 1 in which the polymeric film (101) is embrittled or otherwise weakened in order to facilitate shearing of the polymeric film (101) for easy removal of the product (X).
3. A product containerisation system according to Claim 1 or 2 where the polymeric film (101) is made substantially from poly-vinyl alcohol (PVOH).
4. A product containerisation system according to any one of the preceding Claims where the planar sheet (103) is corrugated fibreboard, carton board or folding boxboard.
5. A product containerisation system according to any of Claims 1 to 3 where the planar sheet (103) is non-porous to the passage of air when one side of the planar sheet (103) is subjected to a vacuum.
6. A product containerisation system according to Claim 5 where the non-porous sheet (103) is a polymeric sheet or a ribbed extrusion of a

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polymeric material.

7. A product containerisation system according to any one of the preceding claims, in which the planar sheet (103) comprises a series of panels (A-H) arranged in a row, a plurality of such panels (A-D) having at least one product (X) mounted thereon, and in which each panel (A-H) is folded with respect to its adjacent panel to form a package in the form of a square or rectangular roll.
8. A product containerisation system according to claim 7, in which the planar sheet (103) comprises at least five panels (A-H).
9. A product containerisation system according to claim 7 or 8, in which each of the series of panels (A-D) has one product (X) mounted thereon.
10. A system for the preparation of a package according to any one of the preceding claims.